

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-12
SOE-02 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
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R 080255Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1858
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, UNGA
SUBJECT: SSOD GENERAL DEBATE JUNE 6 AM: STATEMENTS BY
HOLY SEE, BENIN, RWANDA, IRAN, NEW ZEALAND

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: GENERAL DEBATE CONTINUED JUNE 6 WITH
STATEMENTS BY HOLY SEE, BENIN, IRAN, RWANDA, AND NEW
ZEALAND. HOLY SEE STATEMENT CITED SEARCH OF NATIONS FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AND RESULTANT BALANCE OF POWER AND FEAR.
BENIN ACCUSED IMPERIALIST FORCES OF ATTEMPTING TO RE-
ESTABLISH COLONIAL RULE AND STATED MANY SMALL, POOR
NATIONS CAUGHT UP IN ARMS RACE NOT OF THEIR OWN MAKING.
IRAN STRESSED SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF US AND USSR IN
DISARMAMENT, STRONGLY SUPPORTED NPT AND NUCLEAR-WEAPON
FREE ZONES AND CHANGE IN CCD CO-CHAIRMANSHIP SYSTEM.
RWANDA ECHOED VIEWS OF OTHER AFRICAN STATEMENTS NEW
ZEALAND CALLED FOR COMPLETION OF CTB TREATY IN TIME FOR
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PRESENTATION TO 33RD UNGA, SUPPORTED CANADIAN PROPOSAL
FOR AGREEMENT TO BAN FLIGHT TESTING OF NEW DELIVERY
SYSTEMS AND SUPPORTED IMPOSITION OF COMPREHENSIVE SAFE-
GUARDS ON TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. END SUMMARY.

2. ARCHBISHOP CASSEROLI OF THE HOLY SEE DELIVERED A
MESSAGE FROM POPE PAUL VI. THE ADDRESS CITED THE DANGERS

OF THE MODERN AGE AND THE SEARCH OF NATIONS FOR NATIONAL SECURITY. THE RESULT HAS BEEN A BALANCE OF POWER AND FEAR, WITH CONCOMITANT NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS RACES. CASSEROLI PROPOSED REPLACING THE BALANCE OF TERROR WITH A BALANCE OF TRUST, ACHIEVABLE THROUGH A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF MUTUAL TRUST.

3. THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BENIN ACCUSED "IMPERIALIST FORCES" OF ATTEMPTING TO RE-ESTABLISH "COLONIAL RULE" THROUGH AN ATTACK MERCENARY FORCES MADE ON COTONOU LAST MARCH. HE SAID THAT IF HIS NATION HAD NOT POSSESSED WEAPONS, THEY WOULD HAVE LOST CONTROL OF THEIR OWN COUNTRY, AND THAT NOW BENIN--LIKE SO MANY SMALL, POOR NATIONS--IS CAUGHT UP IN AN ARMS RACE THAT IT NOT OF HER OWN MAKING. HE PARADOXICALLY, ASSERTED THAT LARGE NATIONS, ESPECIALLY FORMER COLONIAL POWERS, HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO GUARANTEE THE COMPLETE AND TRUE INDEPENDENCE OF SMALL NATIONS, AND CONCLUDED WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT DISARMAMENT IS THE CONCERN OF THE WHOLE WORLD, NOT JUST A COTERIE OF STATES PLUS A FEW "CANNON SALESMEN."

4. IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARI STRESSED THE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES THAT THE US AND USSR HAVE IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT. HE NOTED THAT, DESPITE PROGRESS IN SALT, BOTH NATIONS MAINTAIN HUGE STOCKPILES OF CONVEN-
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TIONAL AND NUCLEAR ARMS. KHALATBARI ALSO NOTED THAT THE LACK OF AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM HAS CREATED A NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL STATES TO REMAIN ARMED. HE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE NPT AND NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONES AND CALLED FOR CHANGE IN THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP SYSTEM OF CCD.

5. RWANDA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE KARUHIJE IN A BALANCED PRESENTATION MIRRORED THE SENTIMENTS OF MANY AFRICAN DELEGATIONS. HE EXPRESSED THE FEARS OF SMALL STATES OF THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE STRUGGLES BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE INABILITY OF THE SUPER POWERS TO AGREE ON DISARMAMENT MEASURES SUGGESTS THAT EACH OF THEM HAS NO REAL DESIRE TO DISARM. KARUHIJE CALLED FOR ALL STATES SERIOUSLY INTENT ON ACHIEVING NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT TO BAN THE NEUTRON BOMB. HE ALSO CHARGED THAT THE US, BY MANUFACTURING HUGE QUANTITIES OF WEAPONS AND BY CONTINUING TO DEVELOP NEW ONES (SUCH AS THE CRUISE MISSILE) IS FAILING TO PROVIDE THE LEADERSHIP IN DISARMAMENT THAT THE WORLD EXPECTS.

6. IN A WELL-RECEIVED SPEECH, NEW ZEALAND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER TALBOYS GAVE STRONG SUPPORT FOR MANY ONGOING EFFORTS TO CONTROL ARMAMENTS. HE CALLED FOR THE THREE NUCLEAR STATES AND THE CCD TO COMPLETE A CTB TREATY TEXT IN TIME FOR PRESENTATION AT THE 33RD UNGA, SUPPORTED THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL TO HAVE AN AGREEMENT BANNING FLIGHT TESTING OF NEW DELIVERY SYSTEMS, AS WELL AS SUPPORTED THE IMPOSITION OF COMPREHENSIVE SAFEGUARDS ON THE TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY; HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP WOULD ADMIT NUCLEAR PURCHASERS INTO THEIR DELIBERATIONS. TALBOYS DECLARED THAT NPT SIGNATORIES HAVE A RIGHT TO REQUEST A PLEDGE THAT NUCLEAR ARMS WILL NOT BE USED AGAINST THEM AND HOPED

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THAT THIS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE SSOD FINAL DOCUMENT. HE ALSO SUPPORTED THE PRINCIPLE OF NUCLEAR-WEAPONS-FREE-ZONES, ADVOCATED SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF A TREATY BANNING CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. HE ALSO RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO LIMIT CONVENTIONAL ARMS AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE JAPANESE PROPOSAL TO STUDY THE TRANSFER OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS. HE SAID NEW ZEALAND WOULD PARTICIPATE IN A STUDY OF MILITARY BUDGETS AND SUPPORTED THE NORDIC PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT. TURNING

TO MACHINERY, TALBOYS CRITICIZED THE PERFORMANCE OF THE
CCD AND CALLED FOR INTRODUCTION OF PROCEDURAL RULES GIVING
STATES THE CHANCE TO COMMENT ON, OR PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO,
AGREEMENTS PREPARED BY THE CCD, DURING THE NEGOTIATING
PROCESS. TALBOYS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT CHANGES IN CCD COM-
POSITION WERE NECESSARY AND INSISTED THAT STATES, WHO WISH
TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN NEGOTIATIONS, SHOULD HAVE A
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PERIODIC OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. NEW ZEALAND FAVORED
RESERVING SOME SEATS FOR ELECTION, ON THE BASIS OF
EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION, FOR 5-7 YEAR
TERMS.

7. NOTE: TO AVOID PROBLEMS THAT COULD ARISE FROM HAVING
A NON-MEMBER OF UN PARTICIPATE IN ASSEMBLY'S GENERAL
DEBATE, SSOD INITIALLY CONVENED IN PLENARY HALL AS AD HOC
COMMITTEE (OF THE WHOLE). FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY HOLY SEE,
COMMITTEE ADJOURNED AND SSOD IMMEDIATELY CONVENED IN
PLENARY SESSION TO HEAR FURTHER GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENTS.
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